

Application No.: 10/815,346

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Docket No.: 070702009700

REMARKS

Claims 1-6, 10-20, and 22-24 were rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. This rejection is respectfully traversed and should be withdrawn in light of this Amendment. Claim 1 has been amended as suggested by the Examiner to read "separating the first fluid passage and the second fluid passage."

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 10, 11, 14-17 and 20 are rejected as being anticipated by Jacobson. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 now contains the limitation of claim 22 (now canceled). Thus, the rejection of claim 1 over Jacobson is moot.

Claims 1 and 22 were rejected as being anticipated by Bohn. This rejection is respectfully traversed and should be withdrawn as claim 1 now contains the limitation of claim 5.

Claims 3, 12 and 18 were rejected as being obvious over Jacobson in view of Ruiz-Martinez. Claims 4, 14 and 19 were rejected as being obvious over Jacobson in view of Olivares. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 now contains the limitation of claim 22, which is *not* disclosed as a whole in Jacobson, Ruiz-Martinez and Olivares. Thus, claims 3 and 4 should now be allowable.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

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In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 070702009700. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,

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